

NEW JERSEY CLEAN AIR COUNCIL

Clean Air Council Members

James Blando, Ph.D., Chairman
Leonard Bielory, M.D. Vice Chairman
Ferdows Ali, Ph.D.
Jorge H. Berkowitz, Ph.D.
Joseph Constance
Michael Egenton
John Elston
Elease Evans
Gene Feyl
Toby Hanna, P.E.
Richard M. Lynch, Ph.D.
John Maxwell

Clean Air Council Members

Joyce Paul
Joseph Spatola, Ph.D.
Kenneth Thoman
Junfeng (Jim) Zhang, Ph.D.
Irwin Zonis

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Draft Approved: 12/13/06

NJ CLEAN AIR COUNCIL MEETING RECORD

November 8, 2006, 9:30 a.m.

University of Medicine & Dentistry (UMDNJ)
NJ Medical School, Medical Science Building
Dean's Conference Room (C-level - Room 677)
185 South Orange Avenue
Newark, NJ 07101

CALL TO ORDER: Vice-Chairman opened the meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: All of the Council members were present with the changes noted below. (**See Attachment 1 – Attendance Sheet**)

EXCUSED: James Blando, John Maxwell, Joseph Constance
REPRESENTATIVE: David Brogan for Jorge Berkowitz, Dan Cunningham for Michael Egenton
ABSENT: Elease Evans, Gene Feyl
SPEAKERS: Chris Salmi, Assistant Director, Air Quality Management; Terrance Bankston, Director of Constituent Services, Newark Mayor's Office ; Amy Goldsmith, NJ Environmental Federation; Ronald B. Low, MD, MS, FACEP, Associate Director, Medical and Professional Affairs, New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation
VISITORS: Peg Hanna, NJDEP; Rebecca Rodriguez, student; Joann Held, Environmental Justice Council; Dennis Pool, NJ Environmental Lobby

Meeting Record

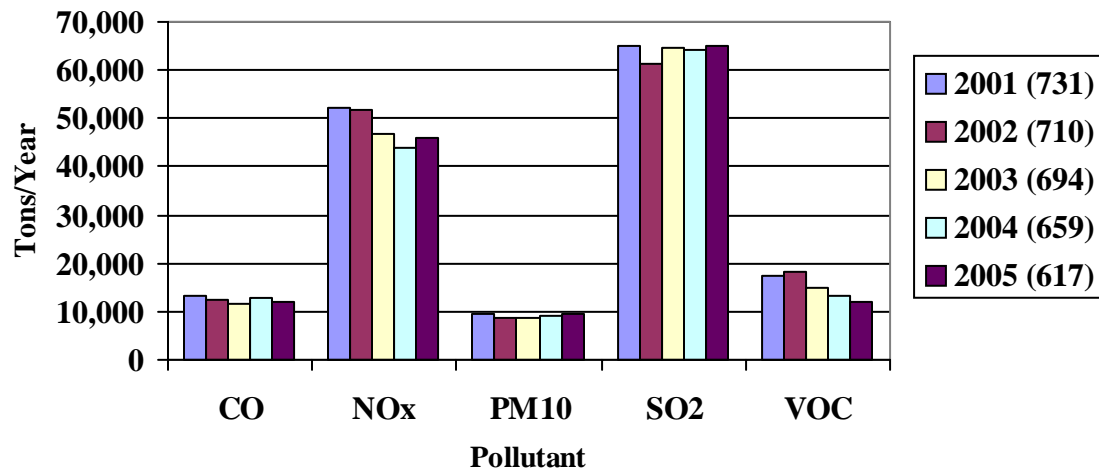
Roll call was taken. Vice-Chairman called for motion to approve the October minutes. Irwin Zonis made the motion to approve the October minutes with minor edits. Ferdows Ali seconded the motion. The October minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Administrative Report

Presented by Chris Salmi, Assistant Director, Air Quality Management:

- Of the 620 Emission Statements received for the year 2005, 500 have been reviewed, including all of the major facilities.

Emissions from Point Sources in New Jersey



- A public hearing on the proposed Idling Rule Revision was held on October 20. The proposal will reduce the number and type of allowable exemptions to the three-minute idling standard and more clearly describe the conditions under which extended idling is allowed. The proposal includes a sunset provision to the current exemption for idling while sleeping or resting in a sleeper berth, beginning in 2010.
- Hercules in Parlin is applying to perform open burning of three 1500 cubic feet piles of wood conjoined with stainless steel. The need to burn arises from the fact that separating the wood from the steel has the potential to cause an explosion of nitrocellulose interspersed between the wood and the steel.
- Effective October 16, both the Centralized Inspection Facilities and the Private Inspection Facilities will implement On Board Diagnostics (OBD) inspection for vehicles with Controller Area Network (CAN) communications capability. This will enable the newest vehicle to receive the appropriate OBD inspection rather than the tailpipe inspection.
- The Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) is meeting on November 15. Modeling difficult to attain but air quality data shows progress. The OTC action will likely include statements regarding: electric generating utilities (EGUs), industrial, commercial and institutional boilers, glass and cement manufacturing and California cars.
- Both the CAIR/Multi-pollutant rule and the Diesel Retrofit rule are moving internally through the NJDEP.

- The Reasonable Available Control Technology (RACT) SIP was due to EPA by September 15, 2006. NJDEP missed this deadline but plans to propose later this winter. The SIP is still undergoing management review within the NJDEP.
- The Federal Regional Haze Rule mandates six facilities in New Jersey to complete a Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) analysis. The NJDEP sent letters to the facilities informing them of this new requirement.

Constituent Services

Presented by Terrance Bankston, Director of Constituent Services, Newark Mayor's Office:

As an advocate for the citizens of Newark, the goals of the office are to:

- Educate the residents about the environmental factors that trigger asthma.
- Engage the general population through:
 - Community meetings
 - Focus groups
 - Outreach fairs
 - In-service programs

Diesel Hotspots in Newark

Presented by Amy Goldsmith, NJ Environmental Federation:
(See Attachments 2 and 3)

Atmosphere and Asthma:

Emergency Department Asthma Visits Related to Upper Respiratory Infection Visits, Allergens, Weather and Pollution

Presented by Ronald B. Low, MD, MS, FACEP, Associate Director, Medical and Professional Affairs, New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation:

- Objectives: To determine. 1) How changes in numbers of ED visits are associated with changing levels or counts of putative exacerbating agents. 2) If increased pollution levels, within EPA guidelines, are statistically related to increased numbers of ED visits for asthma.
- Methods: Our response variable is the count of ED visits for asthma per day to New York City public hospitals operated by Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC). HHC owns 11 hospitals and 6 freestanding clinics. Experimental variables included: counts of HHC URI patients/day; pollen and fungal spore counts made by one of the authors; air pollutant data (NO_x, NO₂, CO, SO₂, suspended <10_μ particulate (PM₁₀) levels) from EPA; national influenza prevalence estimates from CDC; temperature and humidity from the National Climatic Data Center. We developed an ARIMA model on 1991-2003 data, and then tested it prospectively on 2004 data.
- Results: There were 730,104 ED visits (151±69 visits/day) for asthma. Assuming causality, the maximal possible effect (increased visits/day) we found were: cold air 15, dry air 10, URI incidence 63, PM₁₀ 11, NO_x 14, total pollen 28, grass pollen 20, the 9/11 attack 44. The 9/11 and pollen effects were delayed by five days. Some variables did not meet model entry criteria: NO₂, CO, SO₂, influenza prevalence, fungal spore counts. Prospectively, 97% of data fit within predicted confidence intervals.
- Conclusions: Our modeling shows predictable relationships between ED visits for asthma to New York City public hospitals and: cold, dry air, URI incidence, pollen counts, NO_x and PM₁₀ pollution.

Abbreviations:

ARIMA: Used synonymously with ARIMAX. Roughly, regression analysis which adjusts co-correlation with time.

CO: Carbon monoxide

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency

HHC: New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation

NO₂: Nitrogen dioxide.

NO_x: All oxides of nitrogen, including NO₂

NWS: National Weather Service

O₃: Ozone

PM₁₀: Suspended airborne particles smaller than 10μ diameter

SO₂: Sulfur dioxide

URI: Upper respiratory infection (ICD9 460.0-495.9)

NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

- Review November Minutes
- Annual Public Hearing Update: Brochure and speakers
- Vice-Chairman called for motion to adjourn the meeting. John Elston made the motion, seconded by Jim Zhang. The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

- News Clips

NEXT MEETING

December 13, 2006, 9:30 a.m., NJ Environmental Infrastructure Trust, 3131 Princeton Pike Building 6, 2nd Floor, Suite 201, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648